

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-36 (canceled).

Claim 37 (currently amended): A method for ameliorating pain in a human
associated with ~~of treating a human patient for~~ an anal disorder selected from one or more of the
group consisting of anal fissure, anal ulcer, and hemorrhoidal disease, ~~and levator spasm and~~
~~ameliorating pain associated therewith~~, comprising administering an effective amount of an
organic nitric oxide donor proximate to, or to, the affected area ~~in the external anus and distal~~
~~anal canal~~ of the patient, and wherein said method the pain is ameliorated.

Claim 38 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein said anal disorder
is an anal fissure or ulcer.

Claim 39 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein said anal disorder
is hemorrhoidal disease.

Claim 40 (canceled).

Claim 41 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric
oxide donor is capable of releasing nitric oxide under physiological conditions.

Claim 42 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric
oxide donor is capable of releasing nitric oxide under anal disease treatment conditions.

Claim 43 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the administering
is topical.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the administering
is via a suppository.

Claim 45 (currently amended): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied proximate to the affected area ~~in the external anus and distal anal canal~~ of the patient.

Claim 46 (currently amended): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to the affected area ~~in the external anus and distal anal canal~~ of the patient.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The method of claim 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is formulated in a composition comprising the nitric oxide donor in an amount from 0.01% to 10% by weight and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a carrier selected from the group consisting of white petrolatum, mineral oil, lanolin, distilled water, acetone, and cocoa butter.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a corticosteroid.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition further comprises a local anesthetic.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as an ointment, a cream, a gel, or a lotion.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as a liquid or semisolid.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The method of claim 47, wherein the composition is formulated as a suppository.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The method of claim 41, wherein the administering is topical and the nitric oxide donor is formulated as an ointment, a cream, a gel, or a lotion.

Claim 55 (previously presented): The method of claim 41, wherein the administering is topical and the nitric oxide donor is formulated as a liquid or semisolid.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The method of claim 41, wherein the nitric oxide donor is formulated as a suppository.

Claim 57 (previously presented): The method of claim 41, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is formulated in a composition comprising the nitric oxide donor in an amount from 0.01% to 10% by weight and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Claims 58 to 59 (canceled).

Claim 60 (previously presented): The method of claim 54 37, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to a hemorrhoid.

Claim 61 (previously presented): The method of claim 5437, wherein the organic nitric oxide donor is applied to an anal fissure or anal ulcer.

Claim 62 (currently amended): A method of treating a human patient having pain associated with an anal fissure, anal ulcer, or hemorrhoid, or spasm of the levator muscle and ameliorating pain associated therewith, comprising applying a composition comprising an effective amount of an organic compound which can release nitric oxide under physiological or anal disease treatment conditions and a physiologically acceptable carrier to an area proximate to, or to, the affected area ~~in the anal canal~~ of the patient, wherein said method the pain is ameliorated.

Claim 63 (previously presented): A method of claim 62, wherein the affected area has a hemorrhoid.

Claim 64 (previously presented): A method of claim 62, wherein the affected area has an anal ulcer or anal fissure.

Claim 65 (previously presented): A method of claim 62, wherein the organic compound is formulated as a suppository.